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**UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA**

MARY L. SMITH, individually and on behalf  
of all others similarly situated.

Case No.: 5:23-cv-03527-PCP  
(Consol. w/ 5:23-cv-04191-BLF)

## Plaintiffs,

## **JOINT STATEMENT REGARDING DISCOVERY DISPUTE**

v.  
GOOGLE LLC

Complaint Filed: 7/14/2023  
Trial Date: 9/27/2027

**Defendant:**

*Hon. P. Casey Pitts, District Judge  
San Jose Courthouse, Ctrm. 8 – 4<sup>th</sup> Floor*

Pursuant to Rule 7(b) of the Court’s Civil and Discovery Referral Matters Standing Order, the parties submit this joint discovery letter regarding whether defendant Google must produce (1) custodial records from its former employee Blake Lemoine; (2) records relating to Google’s use of algorithms, artificial intelligence, and automated decision-making processes in its collection, processing and monetization of user data; and (3) documents concerning, and data reflecting, Google’s collection of relevant user data from third-party applications (“Apps”). The parties have met and conferred multiple times regarding these issues.

There are 288 days before the close of fact discovery, currently set for July 22, 2026. *See* ECF No. 107. The parties positions on the disputes, and any attempts at compromise, are as follows: Plaintiffs’ position is that the records they seek are highly relevant to this case for the reasons discussed herein. Plaintiffs have also made offers of compromise for certain RFPs at issue, as reflected in the chart attached as Exhibit A. Given the breadth of discovery Google has already agreed to produce (and has produced), Google does not believe that any of Plaintiffs’ requests herein are relevant or proportional and does not believe further compromises are appropriate.

## **I. Inclusion of Blake Lemoine as Google Document Custodian**

### **Plaintiffs’ Position**

Blake Lemoine, a Google employee from 2015 until 2022, should be included as a document custodian in Google’s search for relevant records. Google has refused to search for or produce any of Lemoine’s custodial records on the sole ground that it does not believe Lemoine has a “relevant nexus” to this action. However, as Google knows from similar litigation involving its collection of user data without consent through Google Analytics (“GA”) and other tools, Lemoine has already testified to multiple relevant issues through a declaration and under oath at a deposition.

For example, in *Brown v. Google*, No. 4:20-cv-03664-YGR (N.D. Cal.) (“*Brown*”), alleging Google collects user data on websites and devices even when privacy settings are on, the plaintiffs submitted a sworn declaration from Lemoine attesting to facts that are also relevant here:

- At Google Lemoine worked on “various projects relating to search, backend infrastructure, machine learning, automation, and artificial intelligence (or AI).” *Brown*, ECF No. 1042-1 at 3. His work also required him to “gain knowledge of the data sources that [Google] Search uses as inputs.” *Id.*

- 1     • Google falsely “took the position that its internal limitations on access to end-user data .  
2        . . . did not apply with respect to the algorithms, machine learning, and artificial intelligence  
3        services within Google that would use that data,” and Lemoine “implemented privacy  
4        compliance according to this specification under protest.” *Id.*
- 5     • Despite Google’s above position, “[m]any of the core AI systems consume a broad  
6        collection of different data sources . . .” *Id.*
- 7     • “The Google algorithms, machine learning, and artificial intelligence that various Google  
8        teams worked on were able to use and in fact used data generated by end users not only  
9        from their regular browsing but also” from “private” browsing. *Id.* at 4.
- 10    • “Some of Google’s algorithms, machine learning, and artificial intelligence were  
11        improved by learning about activities based on geographic location. In addition, they  
12        were trained to recognize browsing behavior and patterns originating from the same  
13        persons and devices. Thus, in my experience, Google’s algorithms, machine learning,  
14        and artificial intelligence are still able to reidentify the same persons and devices, even if  
15        the end users decided to use private-mode web browsing. People’s browsing patterns can  
16        serve as a signature of sorts which the AI can identify and use to transfer data about one  
17        “account” (e.g. a person’s Incognito history) to a different “account” (e.g. that same  
18        person’s normal Chrome experience). *Id.*
- 19    • At Google Lemoine conducted a study, and subsequently authored a report (the “Report”),  
20        concerning “many potential problems that [Google] should address before they harmed  
21        anyone” including that “data from a user’s signed out session,” meaning when a user was  
22        not even signed into their Google account, “may transfer to their signed in sessions, and  
23        vice versa.” *Id.* The report further concluded that the “same technical issue applied to  
24        data transference between Chrome Incognito and regular Chrome sessions (as well as  
25        other Google surfaces), through the same mechanism.” *Id.*
- 26    • Google “has a culture and practice of limiting the creation of written documentation  
27        regarding the sorts of issues discussed above, including through Google’s ‘Communicate  
28        with Care’ program and efforts internally (by Google executives and others) to limit  
      internal communications and punish people who raised ethical concerns about Google’s  
      practices.” *Id.* at 4. This includes a statement by Lemoine’s Director to Lemoine that his  
      “VP was advised not to read the report in order to maintain plausible deniability.” *Id.* at  
      4-5.

Following Google’s refusal to produce Lemoine’s documents in *Brown*, Judge Gonzalez Rogers ordered the production and Lemoine’s deposition while explaining he was a “potential whistleblower” who “in many way ‘guts’ Google’s positions. *Id.*, ECF No. 1080 at 83, 85. When deposed by Google in *Brown* on December 21, 2023, Lemoine testified, as relevant here, that:

- Google’s AI systems can re-identify users even when they are not signed into Google, and potentially individuals without any Google accounts, using browsing behaviors, device fingerprints, and IP addresses. *See id.*, ECF No. 1117-13 at 177:6-179:7.

- 1     • Google’s “AI, algorithms, or machine learning” (1) learn using private browser data; (2) reidentify users when they are in private browsing mode; and (3) join user’s private  
2       browsing histories with their normal Chrome account on the aggregate level, without  
3       Google having disclosed any of this to the public. *Id.* at 202:24-203:13.
- 4     • “In general, Google believes that its users are incompetent to make decisions related to  
5       privacy.” *Id.* at 204:24-25.<sup>1</sup>

6       Google largely ignores Lemoine’s testimony *under oath* via declaration and deposition on various  
7       relevant topics, including Google’s purported practice of limiting the creation of internal records  
8       and attempts to maintain “plausible deniability.” Google instead chooses to attack Lemoine’s  
9       character based on his use of narcotics.<sup>2</sup> At the same time, Google fails to identify any  
10      disproportionate burden from adding to the current initial set of eight custodians (all proposed by  
11      Google), nor could it, as nine custodians is well below the typical number in complex class actions  
12      like this, and in similar cases against Google. *See, e.g., Calhoun v. Google*, No. 5:20-cv-5146-LHK-  
13      SVK (N.D. Cal.), ECF No. 349 at 4 (Google custodians “capped at 42,” mirroring cap in *Brown*).  
14

15       Plaintiffs ask the Court to order that (1) within 30 days, Google complete its production of  
16       Lemoine’s relevant custodial records; (2) within five days, Google provide Plaintiffs with proposed  
17       search terms, and a hit count of the terms’ frequency in the custodial records; and (3) within ten  
18       days, the parties conclude any search term negotiations or, if no agreement is reached, submit any  
19       disputed terms to the Court for resolution.<sup>3</sup>  
20

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21       <sup>1</sup> Lemoine’s testimony from *Brown* was also cited in the plaintiffs’ successful opposition to  
22       summary judgment in *Rodriguez v. Google*, No. 3:20-CV-04688-RS (N.D. Cal.) (“*Rodriguez*”), *see id.*,  
23       ECF No. 427 at 3, a case alleging Google’s “surreptitious interception, collection, saving, and  
24       use of consumers’ highly personal browsing histories on their mobile devices whenever consumers  
25       use [apps] that have incorporated Google code” *Id.*, ECF No. 298 at 1.

26       <sup>2</sup> Google’s personal attack is not well taken in light of reports that its co-founder and current board  
27       member Sergey Brin “dabbles in small amounts of magic mushrooms” and funded “a startup  
28       studying a hallucinogenic mental-health treatment.” <https://www.wired.com/story/microdosing-workplace-shroom-boom/>; <https://fortune.com/2024/07/23/sergey-brin-google-tesla-shares-elon-musk-catalyst4-mental-health-hallucinogens/>.

29       <sup>3</sup> Google should also produce relevant records from Lemoine, and for the RFPs discussed herein,  
30       identified through a reasonable investigation, even if not captured by search terms. *See, e.g., Nat'l  
31       Acad. of Recording Arts & Scis., Inc. v. On Point Events, LP*, 256 F.R.D. 678, 680 (C.D. Cal. 2009)  
32       (one must conduct reasonable inquiry into factual basis of discovery responses) (citations omitted).

1                   **Google's Position**

2                   This lawsuit challenges the use of Google Analytics (“GA”) on three tax filing websites  
 3 offered by TaxAct, TaxSlayer, and H&R Block (together, the “Tax Websites”). Compl. ¶¶ 1–2.  
 4 Plaintiffs allege that “[t]hese tax preparation companies sent private tax return information to  
 5 Google through [GA] and its embedded tracking pixel.” *Id.* ¶ 2. What does Blake Lemoine have to  
 6 do with this case? Nothing. Plaintiffs’ regurgitation of Lemoine’s declaration in *Brown v. Google*—  
 7 a different lawsuit involving different technology and facts—demonstrates his lack of relevance.  
 8 The Court should deny Plaintiffs’ request seeking discovery from an irrelevant ex-employee,  
 9 particularly given the relevant custodians from whom Google has already agreed to produce.

10                  Lemoine is “a former senior Google employee who worked on artificial intelligence  
 11 products and was later placed on leave when he tried to hire a lawyer for a chatbot he believed to  
 12 be sentient.” *Rodriguez v. Google*, 2025 WL 2237720, at \*4 (N.D. Cal. Aug. 6, 2025); *see also*  
 13 Lemoine Dep. at 217:1–9, *Rodriguez*, No. 3:20-cv-04688-RS, Dkt. No. 531-19 (“A: [...] LaMDA  
 14 definitely has a soul. . . . It’s your essence that carries you forward in time, and it does have one of  
 15 those”). He testified under oath that he repeatedly consumed THC and psychedelic drugs at work.  
 16 Lemoine Dep., No. 3:20-cv-04688-RS, Dkt. No. 531-19, at 124:8–24. “After he blogged about the  
 17 prospect of being fired for his AI ‘ethics’ work and leaked information to major news outlets,  
 18 Google terminated him in July 2022.” *Rodriguez*, 2025 WL 2237720 at \*4.

19                  To be sure, Lemoine is a font of colorful statements—that is why, in counsel’s experience,  
 20 he is now a perennial source target of discovery by plaintiffs hoping to uncover an inflammatory  
 21 email, regardless of relevance. Plaintiffs’ reliance on *Rodriguez* is apt in this regard. That case  
 22 involved a version of GA used on apps called Google Analytics for Firebase. *Rodriguez*, 2025 WL  
 23 2237720, at \*5. Plaintiffs point out that plaintiffs there “cited” Lemoine’s testimony in their own  
 24 briefing. But Plaintiffs omit that the court specifically excluded Lemoine from being called to trial,  
 25 as his testimony from *Brown* “about completely distinct technologies” was inadmissible hearsay  
 26 and not probative of any relevant issue. *See Rodriguez*, 2025 WL 2237720, at \*5.

27                  This case is in accord. The allegations here concern the transmission of tax information to  
 28 Google via GA when users file taxes through one of three websites: H&R Block, TaxSlayer, and

1 TaxAct. At issue in *Brown*, however, was Google’s alleged ability to obtain the browsing data of  
 2 users across the entire web, any time they use an Incognito browsing mode. *Brown v. Google*, 685  
 3 F. Supp. 3d 909, 918–19 (N.D. Cal. 2023). Whatever alleged knowledge Lemoine had about the  
 4 ability of AI to tie multiple Incognito browsing sessions back to individual users is irrelevant here.  
 5 Indeed, the operative complaint alleges that the tax websites *already* send data to Google in a way  
 6 that makes it purportedly identifiable—no AI required. *See Compl.* ¶¶ 32, 41. And, notably, the  
 7 words “Google Analytics” appears nowhere in Plaintiffs’ recitation of Lemoine’s knowledge.  
 8 Plaintiffs do not argue otherwise, choosing to, instead, rely on a flimsy suggestion that Google  
 9 purportedly “limit[]” records to create “plausible deniability”—presumably about the ability of a  
 10 sentient supercomputer to combine Incognito browsing sessions. Putting aside that this accusation  
 11 is defied by the thousands of pages of custodian and noncustodial records (including data files)  
 12 Google already produced in this litigation, Plaintiffs’ attempt to rely on such vague accusation  
 13 shows that this request is plainly a fishing expedition.

14 There is also no need for Lemoine’s custodial files. The parties months ago negotiated a set  
 15 of custodians that *actually do* work on the relevant product and with the relevant Tax Websites. This  
 16 includes the director and two product managers of GA, as well as various Google employees who  
 17 communicated directly with the Tax Websites. It is their files, not Lemoine’s, that will speak to  
 18 whether and how the data at issue here is processed and used within Google, and Google has already  
 19 made substantial productions of their custodial files. Plaintiffs’ months-long delay seeking  
 20 Lemoine’s custodial documents underscores Lemoine’s lack of relevance. *See Rodriguez*, 2025 WL  
 21 2237720, at \*5 (plaintiffs’ lack of diligence seeking discovery from Lemoine “hardly suggests that  
 22 his testimony is particularly probative”).

23 In sum, even if Plaintiffs had shown that Lemoine possessed some relevant knowledge—  
 24 and they have not—they do not explain what information would be uniquely within his possession  
 25 that would justify a further burdensome custodial collection and production. Plaintiffs’ unjustified  
 26 request should be denied in its entirety. *See Roblox Corp. v. WowWee Grp.*, 2023 WL 5507176, at  
 27 \*3 (N.D. Cal. Aug. 25, 2023) (denying additional custodian where “Plaintiffs have made no showing  
 28 that [he] has relevant information” and “only speculate” that such custodian would be relevant).

1       **II. Plaintiffs' RFP 36 Concerning Algorithms, Artificial Intelligence, and Automated**  
 2       **Decision-Making Processes**

3       **Plaintiffs' Position**

4       Plaintiffs' RFP 36 seeks "All DOCUMENTS and COMMUNICATIONS CONCERNING  
 5       YOUR use of algorithms, artificial intelligence ("AI") or automated decision-making processes in  
 6       relation to WEBSITE VISITOR DATA during the CLASS PERIOD, including but not limited to  
 7       the development, testing, implementation, and decisions regarding what data to collect, how to  
 8       process it, and how to utilize it." Exhibit B at 8-9. After the parties met and conferred and  
 9       exchanged writings regarding Google's objections to the RFP, on January 28, 2025 Plaintiffs offered  
 10      to limit RFP 36 to "include only algorithms or AI systems used in the context of GA, Firebase  
 11      Analytics, Google Tag Manager, and any other tools implemented on the Subject Websites or  
 12      applied to Website Visitor Data during the CLASS PERIOD . . . includ[ing] systems used to  
 13      develop, test, or process Website Visitor Data collected through these tools."

14      Despite this proposed compromise, Google has refused to produce documents responsive to  
 15      RFP 36 because it does not believe the documents are relevant to Plaintiffs' claims. Google also  
 16      contends that "[o]ther than a bare supposition that Google uses Plaintiffs' data to train AI, Plaintiff  
 17      does not explain how this issue relates to the claims or defenses in this action, which focus  
 18      exclusively on interception." *Id.* However, while Plaintiffs' claims have a significant focus on  
 19      Google's "interception" of user data, Plaintiffs' claims (and Google's defenses) also implicate, *inter*  
 20      *alia*, how Google processes and monetizes Plaintiffs' and the Classes' data *after* it has been  
 21      intercepted, and the products and tools used by Google for these tasks. Per Lemoine's testimony  
 22      discussed above, one such product is Google's AI, which has become increasingly prominent since  
 23      Plaintiffs filed their operative complaint in October 2023. See ECF No. 35. Google's position also  
 24      ignores Lemoine's testimony that Google trains its AI with user data it collected, even if the user  
 25      does not have a Google account.<sup>4</sup> As such, the records sought by RFP 36 are plainly relevant.

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26  
 27      <sup>4</sup> Plaintiffs putative classes are not limited to individuals with Google accounts. *See, e.g.*, ECF  
 28      No. 35, ¶ 48 (seeking "Nationwide Class" of "All people in the United States who used online tax  
     preparation providers such as H&R Block, TaxAct, or TaxSlayer, while those websites had the  
     Google pixel installed on them.").

1 Plaintiffs ask the Court to order that (1) within 30 days, Google complete its production of  
 2 records responsive to RFP 36; (2) within five days, Google identify (a) relevant ESI custodians and  
 3 other sources of records responsive to RFP 36, and (b) proposed search terms to be applied to the  
 4 custodians as well as hit counts of the terms' frequency in the custodial records; and (3) within ten  
 5 days, the parties conclude any negotiations over custodians or search terms or, if no agreement is  
 6 reached, submit any disputed custodians or terms to the Court for resolution.

7 **Google's Position**

8 Plaintiffs' request for discovery into "Google's AI" again seeks irrelevant information; the  
 9 Court should deny this vague request outright.

10 Plaintiffs' argument makes clear that their only basis for RFP 36 is Lemoine's supposed  
 11 testimony from *Brown* that "Google trains its AI with user data it collected, even if the user does  
 12 not have a Google account." But, again, there is no nexus between Lemoine's testimony in *Brown*  
 13 and the matters at issue here: Google's purported interception of tax information via GA. Plaintiffs  
 14 merely speculate that relevant data from GA is used to train Google's AI. Further, Plaintiffs  
 15 themselves illustrate that AI has nothing to do with the allegations in their complaint. *See supra*  
 16 Section II ("Google's AI . . . has become increasingly prominent *since* Plaintiffs filed their operative  
 17 complaint in October 2023.") (emphasis added). In short, Plaintiffs' request for documents related  
 18 to Google's AI is untethered to any claims or defenses in this action and thus improper. *See Tri-Star*  
 19 *Elec. Int'l, Inc. v. Preci-Dip Durtal SA*, 2012 WL 12964849, at \*2–4 (C.D. Cal. Mar. 27, 2012)  
 20 (discovery sought to develop new claims, but which was not relevant to alleged claims or defenses,  
 21 was not appropriate)

22 Plaintiffs' assertion that such discovery relates vaguely to how Google "processes and  
 23 monetizes" GA data gets them no closer. Google has already agreed in response to other requests  
 24 to produce this very kind of information—both illustrating GA processing and any revenue Google  
 25 received from the Tax Websites' use of GA. Indeed, as a result of conferring extensively, the parties  
 26 have agreed on search terms that get at how Google receives, processes, stores, and uses GA data.  
 27 Google *does not* intend to withhold responsive and relevant non-privileged information reflecting  
 28 how Google may use GA data, including in any "algorithms," machine learning, or ads modeling.

1 What Google has not agreed, however, is to undertake a burdensome search for vague AI processing  
 2 or products untethered to the allegations in the operative complaint, such as documents relating to  
 3 Google's AI product Gemini. Accordingly, to the extent Plaintiffs seek this latter category of  
 4 documents, the Court should deny Plaintiffs' request to compel Google to produce irrelevant  
 5 documents about "Google's AI."

6 **III. Plaintiffs' RFPs Concerning Apps Employing Google Analytics and Related Google**  
**Products, and "App-Related Data"**

7 **Plaintiffs' Position**

8 A number of Plaintiffs' RFPs seek documents concerning, or data reflecting, Google's collection  
 9 of user data from third-party Apps using GA and other tools. Specifically, RFPs 9, 12,  
 10 38 and 39 concern Google Analytics for Firebase and related technologies Google uses to collect  
 11 app data and send the data to Google. *See Exhibit B at 5, 9; see also, e.g.,*  
 12 <https://firebase.google.com/docs/analytics> ("Just add the Firebase SDK to your new or existing app,  
 13 and data collection begins automatically."). RFPs 9, 12, 27, 38 and 39 more generally seek records  
 14 concerning data Google collected from such Apps. *See Exhibit B at 5, 7, 9.* Finally, RFPs 3, 16  
 15 and 38 seek the underlying app-related data, and logs of such data, sent to Google from the Subject  
 16 Websites' mobile Apps and any related technologies. *See Exhibit B at 6, 9; Exhibit D at 1-2.*

17 In the interest of compromise, Plaintiffs have agreed to limit the scope of RFP 3, and have  
 18 offered to limit the scope of RFPs 16, 27 and 36. *See Exhibit A (Joint Discovery Dispute Chart).*  
 19 Despite this, Google has maintained its refusal to produce any of the above "app-related" records  
 20 or data. Google's primary argument for its refusal is that Plaintiffs "have not shown the relevance  
 21 of [the app-related records] to Plaintiffs' complaint." But Google collected sensitive financial  
 22 information (and other personal information) without the consent of Plaintiffs or the putative class  
 23 using GA on *both* websites and Apps of third parties. *See, e.g., Rodriguez v. Google LLC,* 772 F.  
 24 Supp. 3d 1093, 1099 (N.D. Cal. 2025) (denying Google motion for summary judgment and  
 25 explaining "Google created software development kits, including Firebase . . . [which] are  
 26 incorporated into apps by third-party app developers and allow Google to collect user data . . .").

27 Moreover, Plaintiffs' operative complaint explicitly refers to Google's collection of data

1 from apps. *See, e.g.*, ECF No. 35, ¶ 23 (“Google’s data collecting capabilities also include tracking  
 2 user actions on . . . apps”), ¶ 24 (GA “collects data from [advertisers’] websites and apps to create  
 3 reports that provide insights into [their] business.”) (internal quotations omitted). And “[d]iscovery  
 4 is not limited to issues raised in [plaintiff’s] complaint.” *Pasadena Oil & Gas Wyoming LLC v.  
 5 Montana Oil Properties Inc.*, 320 Fed. Appx. 675, 677 (9th Cir. 2009) (citations omitted).

6 Plaintiffs therefore ask the Court to order that (1) within 30 days, Google complete its  
 7 production of records responsive to these RFPs; (2) within five days, Google identify (a) relevant  
 8 ESI custodians and other sources of records responsive to these RFPs, and (b) proposed search terms  
 9 to be applied to the custodians, as well as hit counts of the terms’ frequency in the custodial records;  
 10 and (3) within ten days, the parties conclude any negotiations over custodians or search terms or, if  
 11 no agreement is reached, submit any disputed custodians or terms to the Court for resolution.

## 12           **Google’s Position**

13           Although Plaintiffs exclusively allege use of Tax *Websites*, Plaintiffs seek discovery into the  
 14 websites’ *mobile apps*, and the distinct technology—called Google Analytics for Firebase  
 15 (“GA4F”))<sup>5</sup>—that supports them. This is improper for several reasons and should be denied.

16           **First**, Plaintiffs’ complaint makes clear that they are suing Google for the use of GA on the  
 17 Tax *Websites*. *See, e.g.*, Compl. ¶¶ 1 (“This is a putative class action . . . for wiretapping electronic  
 18 communications on major on-line *tax filing websites* . . .”), 2 (alleging “wiretapping” was enabled  
 19 by embedding GA “in the JavaScript of online tax preparation *websites*”). There are no allegations  
 20 that any users’ tax information was sent via apps or GA4F at all—because no Plaintiff alleges they  
 21 used such apps. *See* Compl. ¶¶ 5–14. They cannot seek discovery into a wholly separate product  
 22 and technology that they did not use. *See Alcala v. Monsanto Co.*, 2014 WL 1266204, at \*5 (N.D.  
 23 Cal. Mar. 24, 2014) (documents “related to products [plaintiff] did *not* use are not relevant”). At  
 24 most, Plaintiffs offer a generic observation that Google *can* collect data from apps, including via  
 25 GA4F which was the at-issue technology in *Rodriguez*. *See supra* Section III (Plaintiffs’ Position).

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26  
 27           <sup>5</sup> GA is a software tool that developers can incorporate into their platform to measure activity.  
 28 GA4F is a specific version of GA that developers can implement on their apps to measure app  
 performance. *See* What is Google Analytics for Firebase,  
<https://support.google.com/firebase/answer/7388022?hl=en>. GA4F can only be used on mobile  
 apps, and not websites. *See id.*

1 But a stray allegation in the complaint does not entitle them to discovery into a distinct technology  
 2 that is not relevant to their own claims. *See Tri-Star*, 2012 WL 12964849, at \*2–4 (“a stray allegation  
 3 does not automatically become the basis of all claims”).<sup>6</sup>

4 ***Second***, other parts of Plaintiff’s complaint expressly scoped out the relevance of any apps  
 5 and app-related data or record. They purport to represent various classes and subclasses of people  
 6 “who used online tax preparation providers such as H&R Block, TaxAct, or TaxSlayer, while ***those***  
 7 ***websites*** had the Google pixel installed on them.” Compl. ¶¶ 4, 48. Documents or data regarding  
 8 GA4F or apps owned by the Tax Websites thus would not be probative of how Google allegedly  
 9 intercepted or used any putative class members’ data transmitted via the Tax Websites.

10 ***Fourth***, to the extent Plaintiffs seek records relating to generic “third-party apps” that are not  
 11 even tethered to H&R Block, Tax Act or TaxSlayer, that must be denied as it’s even ***more*** farfetched  
 12 from the claims and defenses in this case. *See Fed. R. Civ. P. 26(b)(1)*.

13 ***Lastly***, Plaintiffs cannot seek app-related *data* via RFP 3, 16, or 38, as they claim. RFPs 3  
 14 and 39 facially do not call for any mobile app data—RFP 3 seeks “data . . . received from the  
 15 SUBJECT ***WEBSITES*** . . . via GOOGLE ANALYTICS” and RFP 38 seeks only “DOCUMENTS  
 16 and COMMUNICATION,” not any data (in contrast to RFP 3 seeking “data”). As for RFP 16,  
 17 where Plaintiffs do seek named Plaintiffs’ data “sent to Google from the Subject Websites’ mobile  
 18 Apps and any related technology,” it’s unclear (1) how such mobile data could exist where no named  
 19 plaintiffs allege that they used the Tax Websites’ apps, and (2) what Plaintiffs are referring to by  
 20 “any related technology.” *See supra* Section III (Plaintiffs’ Position).

21 To be sure, Google has agreed to run agreed search terms for many of the RFPs identified  
 22 herein as they relate to the Tax *Websites*. Google has also agreed to search for and produce any data  
 23 it can locate associated with the named Plaintiffs from the GA data transmitted by the Tax *Websites*.  
 24 But, for all the reasons stated herein, any other records related to GA4F, mobile apps, or the app  
 25 version of the Tax Websites are irrelevant. Plaintiffs have not met the basic relevance showing and  
 26 the Court should deny Plaintiffs’ requests herein.

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27  
 28 <sup>6</sup> The lack of nexus between the discovery Plaintiffs seek and the issues and products raised in the  
 Complaint distinguish the authority cited by Plaintiffs.

1 Dated: October 7, 2025

Respectfully Submitted,

2 By: /s/ Michael Liskow

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*Attorneys for Plaintiffs*

Dated: October 7, 2025

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1                   **CIVIL L.R. 5-1(i)(3) ATTESTATION**

2                   Pursuant to Civil Local Rule 5-1(i)(3), I hereby attest under penalty of perjury that  
3 concurrence in the filing of this document has been obtained from all signatories.

4                   Dated: October 7, 2025

5                   By: */s/ Michael Liskow*

6                   Michael Liskow

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**[PLAINTIFFS' PROPOSED] ORDER**

The Court, having reviewed the Joint Statement Regarding Discovery Dispute submitted by Plaintiffs and Defendant Google LLC (“Google”), and for good cause shown, hereby ORDERS as follows:

1. Google must perform a reasonable search of the custodial records of Blake Lemoine and produce any such non-privileged records to Plaintiffs. Within five (5) days of this Order, Google must provide Plaintiffs with proposed search terms to be applied to Lemoine's custodial records, as well as a hit count of the search terms' frequency in the custodial records. Within ten (10) days of this Order, the parties must conclude any negotiations over search terms to be applied to Lemoine's custodial records or, if the parties cannot reach agreement by this time, they must submit any disputed search terms to the Court for resolution. Google shall complete its production of Lemoine's responsive, non-privileged custodial records within thirty (30) days of this Order.

2. Google must perform a reasonable search for records responsive to Plaintiffs' RFP 36 and produce any such non-privileged records to Plaintiffs. Within five (5) days of this Order, Google must provide Plaintiffs with proposed search terms to be applied to identify documents responsive to RFP 36, as well as a hit count of the search terms' frequency in the custodial records. Within five (5) days of this Order, Google must identify relevant ESI custodians and other sources of records responsive to RFP 36. Within ten (10) days of this Order, the parties must conclude any negotiations over search terms to be applied, or Google ESI custodial records or other sources to be searched, to identify records potentially responsive to RFP 36. If the parties cannot reach agreement within ten (10) days of this Order, they must instead submit any disputed search terms and/or ESI custodians to the Court for resolution. Google shall complete its production of non-privileged records responsive to RFP 36 within thirty (30) days of this Order.

3. Google must perform a reasonable search for records responsive to Plaintiffs' RFPs 3, 9, 12, 16, 27, 38 and 39 (the "App Data RFPs"), and produce any such non-privileged records to Plaintiffs. Within five (5) days of this Order, Google must provide Plaintiffs with proposed search terms to be applied to identify documents responsive to the App Data RFPs, as well as a hit count of the search terms' frequency in the custodial records. Within five (5) days of this Order, Google

1 must identify relevant ESI custodians and other sources of records responsive to the App Data RFPs.  
2 Within ten (10) days of this Order, the parties must conclude any negotiations over search terms to  
3 be applied, or Google ESI custodial records or other sources to be searched, to identify records  
4 potentially responsive to the App Data RFPs. If the parties cannot reach agreement within ten (10)  
5 days of this Order, they must instead submit any disputed search terms and/or ESI custodians to the  
6 Court for resolution. Google shall complete its production of non-privileged records responsive to  
7 the App Data RFPs within thirty (30) days of this Order.

8 Dated: \_\_\_\_\_

9 Hon. Susan Van Keulen  
10 UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE

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1                   **GOOGLE LLC'S [PROPOSED] ORDER**

2                   The Court, having considered the pleadings and the parties' briefing, finds that the  
3 discovery requested by Plaintiffs is not warranted in light of the relevance and proportionality  
4 factors of Rule 26(b). Accordingly, it is denied.

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8 Dated: \_\_\_\_\_

9                   \_\_\_\_\_  
10                  Hon. Susan Van Keulen  
11                  UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE  
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